

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached ten (10) sheets of drawings are the formal versions of the informal drawings submitted at the time of filing, and have been amended to improve consistency between the written description and the drawings.

Reference numeral "10" has been added to Figs. 1-7 and 9.

Additionally, in Fig. 3, reference numeral "30" has been replaced with reference numeral "31". In Fig. 5, reference numeral "89" has been added and a redundant reference numeral "84" has been canceled. In Fig. 6, reference numeral "20" has been added and reference numerals "93" and "98" have been replaced with reference numerals "92" and "96", respectively. In Fig. 7, reference numeral "39a" has been added and reference numerals "96" and "98" have been canceled. In Fig. 11, a redundant reference numeral "31" has been canceled.

Attachment: Ten (10) replacement sheets

REMARKS

By this amendment, applicant makes one minor amendment to the specification, and presents ten (10) replacement sheets of formal drawings, certain of which are hereby amended as explained in greater detail above. It was not applicant's intent to change the content of the sheets, but to improve consistency between the written description and the drawings, so the sheets should be the same relative to content as those originally filed. Further, no new matter should be added thereby.

Additionally, on November 8, 2005, the undersigned was contacted by telephone by the examiner in regard to this application. During the telephonic interview, the examiner explained that he would be withdrawing the restriction requirement in the Office Action mailed on July 28, 2005, and requested permission to cancel the claims (claims 31-35 and 44-48) that were withdrawn as a consequence of the restriction requirement in the Office Action mailed on December 9, 2004. The undersigned consulted with his client, and granted authorization for the Examiner's Amendment during a brief telephone call on November 8.

In regard to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance, applicant notes that the features highlighted by the examiner as missing from the prior art of record are not verbatim citations of limitations from any of the allowed independent claims. In this manner, the Statement should be viewed as the examiner's shorthand summary of his reasons for allowance. It is applicant's position that the independent claims, as recited, are novel and non-obvious for the reason that each and every limitation of the claims cannot be found in the prior art of record, whether that art is taken individually or in combination.

If there is any matter that the Examiner would like to discuss, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below. In any event, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 27330/38942. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: January 24, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Attachments